The Humble

Petition and Addreſs

OF THE

Right Honourable the LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN and COMMONS of the City of *London*, in Common-Councel Aſſembled.

To the Kings Moſt Excellent Majeſty.

WE, Your Majeſties moſt Loyal and Obedient Subjects, conſidering, That it hath pleaſed Almighty God by a wonderful Providence to bring to light the Deviliſh Attempts and Plots of our Adverſaries, the Papiſts, againſt Your Majeſties Sacred Perſon, Your Government, the True Proteſtant Religion, the Lives, Liberties and Properties of Your Proteſtant Subjects; And, That by the Letters and Papers of the Conſpirators themſelves it doth appear, that one of the moſt effectual Means they propoſed to accompliſh their Deſigns, was by the procuring the frequent Adjourning, Proroguing, or Diſſolving of Your Parliaments; Were ſurprized with Aſtoniſhment at the untimely Diſſolution of Your late Parliaments, before Your Majeſty and They could fully purſue the Diſcovery and Suppreſſion of the ſaid Deſigns and Conſpiracies, or provide Remedies neceſſary for the Preſervation of Your Sacred Perſon and Government, and the Proteſtant Religion at Home and Abroad. But we ſtand more amazed at the Unprecidented Boldneſs of ſome Private Perſons, who (by Printed Papers, and otherwiſe) take upon them to Arraign and Condemn the Proceedings of Your Two laſt Parliaments, which (as Your Petitioners humbly conceive) plainly tends to bring that part of the Conſtitution into Contempt, and in the Conſequence of it to Diſſolve the Ancient Government and its Fundamentals, the Preſervation whereof is abſolutely neceſſary for Your Majeſties Honour, Power and Greatneſs. But We relying upon Your moſt Gracious Diſpoſition, to receive the Dutiful Addreſſes of Your Loyal People, think Our ſelves obliged, by our Allegiance, to repreſent to Your Majeſty, That by theſe Means, contrary to your Royal Intention, Occaſion is taken by the Conſpirators, and their Complices, to haſten and accompliſh that Ruine of Your Majeſty, Your Kingdoms, and the whole Proteſtant Intereſt, which hath been ſo long Projected and Proſecuted by the Councels of *Rome* and its Adherents.

In

In the purſuit of which They are chiefly animated by the continuing Hopes of a Popiſh Succeſſor, and ſharpened by the Juſtice done upon the late Viſcount *Stafford*, and other Conſpirators. And the continued and great Confidence of the Party, is daily viſible in the open Numerous reſorts of Papiſts about Your Royal Palace and this City.

Alſo we ſhould be deficient in Our Duty, ſhould we not Repreſent to Your Majeſty the Neceſſity of maintaining Your Dominion and Sovereignty of the Seas, and the full Exerciſing Your Royal Naval Power; the want whereof hath been the Occaſion, that not only very many of Your Subjects Ships, and great Eſtates therein, have been taken, but alſo Multitudes of Your good Subjects and Able Sea-men, have of late been carried into and held in Miſerable Slavery by the *Algerines*; which will in time (if not redreſſed) not only be an Encouragement to Others to commit further Outrages and Depredations upon Your Subjects and their Ships, but will alſo inevitably be the Occaſion of the decay of Trade, and of Impairing the Strength ſo Neceſſary for the Defence of your Kingdoms.

And as our Duty, from the Apprehenſions we have of the Imminent Dangers that Your Majeſties Royal Perſon and Government, our Religion, and all that is near and dear unto Us lies Expoſed to, obliges us humbly to offer the ſame to Your Princely Conſideration; ſo we do with all Fidelity and Humility aſſure Your Majeſty, That we are very far from being moved by any Commonwealth Principles, in Oppoſition to the Engliſh Monarchy, which we eſteem the beſt of Governments; or by any Ambitious or Factious Deſigns; nor are we further concerned for our ſelves therein, than is natural for Men under Common Danger to look out for Common Safety.

And ſeeing our Danger is ſo Apparent and Viſible, we do in all Humility apply our ſelves to your Sacred Majeſty, beſeeching Your Majeſty to have regard to the Valuable, Induſtrious, and great Part of Your People, by whom Your Government, Your Revenue, and Your Kingdom is ſupported, and aſſure Your Majeſty we will Expoſe our Selves, our Lives and Fortunes, and all things dear to Us, for the Preſervation of Your Majeſties Royal Perſon, Your Government and the Proteſtant Religion.

And inaſmuch as the ſame can be no way effectually ſecured but by the joynt Endeavours of Your Majeſty and Your Great Councel the Parliament, Your Petitioners confidently hoping that no Miſinformations or Aſperſions created or raiſed by ill Men, for the Accompliſhment of their wicked Deſigns, can have any ſuch Impreſſion on Your Royal Mind as to leſſen Your due Eſteem of Your great Councel the Parliament, Do moſt humbly pray, That Your Majeſty will cauſe a Parliament to Aſſemble and Sit, till they have ſo far proceeded, that due Proviſion may be made, and full Security had and obtained, for Your Majeſties Royal Perſon and Your People in all the ſaid Matters.

And Your Petitioners (as in Duty bound) ſhall ever Pray, &c.

Ward Mayor.

Commune Concilium tent' in Camera Guildhall Civitatis *London* Die Veneris xiii° Die Maij, 1681. Annoque Regni Regis *Caroli* Secundi *Angl'* &c. Triceſimo tertio.

IT is Ordered by this Court, That the Petition and Addreſs, now read and agreed upon, to be preſented to his Majeſty, ſhall after the ſame accordingly preſented, be Printed by the City Printer in one Sheet of Paper; As the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor ſhall direct and appoint.

Wagſtaffe.

Printed by *Samuel Roycroft*, Printer to the Honourable City of *LONDON*, 1681.